



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

BRADLEY J. SCHLOZMAN

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html

MAY 5, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HOLLISTER MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO METH CONSPIRACY

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Bradley J. Schlozman, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Hollister, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to participating in a conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine in Greene County, Mo.

Barry Allen Crooks, 38, of Hollister, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Richard E. Dorr this morning to the charge contained in a Nov. 3, 2005, federal indictment.

By pleading guilty today, **Crooks** admitted that he participated in a conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine from July 31, 2002, to June 18, 2003, in Greene County. **Crooks** distributed more than 15 kilograms of methamphetamine to several co-conspirators, Schlozman said, which those co-conspirators then re-distributed in Greene County.

Under federal statutes, **Crooks** could be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in federal prison without parole, up to life imprisonment, plus a fine up to \$4 million. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robyn L. McKee. It was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, COMET (the Combined Ozarks Multijurisdictional Enforcement Team) and the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html